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(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP99/06390 (22) International Filing Date: 31 August 1999 (31.08.99) (30) Priority Data: TO98A000735 1 September 1998 (01.09.98) IT (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): NOVAMONT S.P.A. [IT/IT]; Via G. Fauser, 8, I-28100 Novara (IT). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BASTIOLI, Catia [IT/IT]; Via della Noce, 63, I-28100 Novara (IT). LOMBI, Roberto [IT/IT]; Via Fara, 51, I-28100 Novara (IT). NICOLINI, Matteo [IT/IT]; Via Borgomanero, 82, I-28012 Cressa (IT). TOSIN, Maurizio [IT/IT]; Via San Giacomo, 6, I-13037 Serravalle Sesia (IT). DEGLI INNOCENTI, Francesco [IT/IT]; Corso Torino, 16, I-28100 Novara (IT). (74) Agents: GERBINO, Angelo et al.; Jacobacci & Perani S.p.A., Corso Regio Parco, 27, I-10152 Torino (IT).		(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
(54) Title: BIODEGRADABLE COMPOSITIONS COMPRISING STARCH AND POLYSACCHARIDE ESTERS (57) Abstract <p>The biodegradable heterophase compositions comprise partially or completely destructured and/or complexed starch, a polysaccharide ester and a plasticizer for the polysaccharide ester. In these compositions, the polysaccharide ester constitutes the matrix and the starch the dispersed phase in the form of particles or domains of numeric mean dimension lower than 1 μm and preferably than 0.5 μm for at least 80 % of the particles. The compositions also comprise an additive which can increase and maintain at values of 4 or more the pH of a solution obtained by placing the compositions in pellet form in contact with water at ambient temperature for 1 hour, with the use of a pellet:water ratio of 1:10 by weight.</p>		